

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are all the claims pending in the present application. The Examiner has withdrawn his previous rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, however the Examiner maintains the prior art rejections. Specifically, claims 1-3 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Erk et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,483,066).

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant amends this claim¹, as indicated herein, and submits that Erk does not teach or suggest each and every limitation set forth in amended claim 1. In particular, Erk does not disclose at least, “said plurality of fin-shaped protrusions protruding from the terminal conductor of one phase to the terminal conductor of another phase,” and “said cover surrounding an outer periphery of the plurality of fin-shaped protrusions of each of said radiators, said outer periphery facing the terminal conductor of said another phase, and said cover leaving open a side of each of said radiators,” as recited in amended claim 1.

The cited reference Erk shows Figs. 1 and 2, in which a top end side of the fin-shaped protrusions (Fig. 2, top) is NOT covered. That is, in this reference, the top end side of the fin-shaped protrusions is not covered in the direction orthogonal to the fins of the fin-shaped protrusions. Furthermore, the protruding direction of the fins is parallel to the radiators of each phase, which indicates that there is no electrostatic focusing between the radiators. However, each phase has pole shells PS, and when any terminal conductor is led from the pole shells PS, there arises a problem of heat radiation of the lead terminal conductor and electrostatic focusing between the terminal conductors of each phase.

¹ Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendment to claim 1.

The present invention, as claimed, can provide, for example, a solution to the problem presented in Erk. Further, the present invention can result in a smaller air clearance between the three-phases of radiators, and between the radiator and the peripheral housing, thereby reducing the size of a vacuum switch.

Applicant submits that dependent claim 2 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1.

With respect to claim 3, Applicant amends this claim, as indicated herein, for clarification purposes and to place it in independent form, and submits that Erk does not teach or suggest at least, “the plurality of fin-shaped protrusions for said each phase are arranged, parallel to each other, in a lengthwise direction of said radiator,” as recited in amended claim 3. That is, as shown in Figure 7 of the present application, for example, nowhere does Erk show the claimed arrangement of the plurality of fin-shaped protrusions in a lengthwise direction of the radiator, and parallel to each other. The two different sets of air inlet openings LE of Erk are arranged in a widthwise direction of the radiator. All of the air inlet openings LE are not arranged in a lengthwise direction. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 3 is patentably distinguishable over Erk.

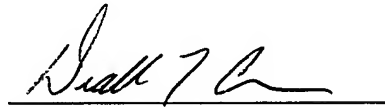
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U. S. Application No. 10/820,784

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Respectfully submitted,



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